

CLATSOP COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

History Matters

September/October 2023

Inside:

- It's "Back to School" Time
- The Worst Movie Ever Made
- Plus, Messages from the Great Beyond!

New Backpack Activity Station at the Heritage Museum

The Clatsop County Historical Society is delighted to announce our new Backpack Activity Station at the Heritage Museum! Recently, our friends, Norah and Sabine, came by the museum to give the backpacks a try. The backpacks were a great way for the two of them to explore the Heritage Museum.



Norah and Sabine making crafts in the *Cedar People* exhibit, doing a scavenger hunt in the Astor's People room, and trying out the Curator's Kit at the Backpack Activity Station



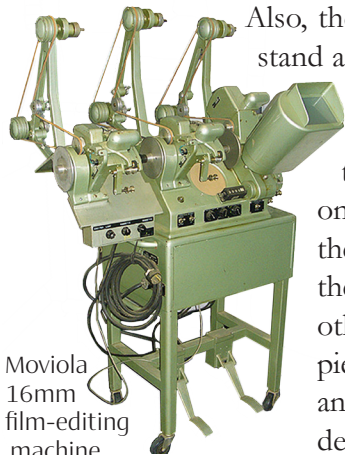
There are three levels of Backpack Activities—those for lower elementary, middle elementary, and upper elementary—full of fun, grade-appropriate activities, crafts, and games.

Come check one out today!

Curator's Corner

by Dr. Chelsea K. Vaughn, Curator

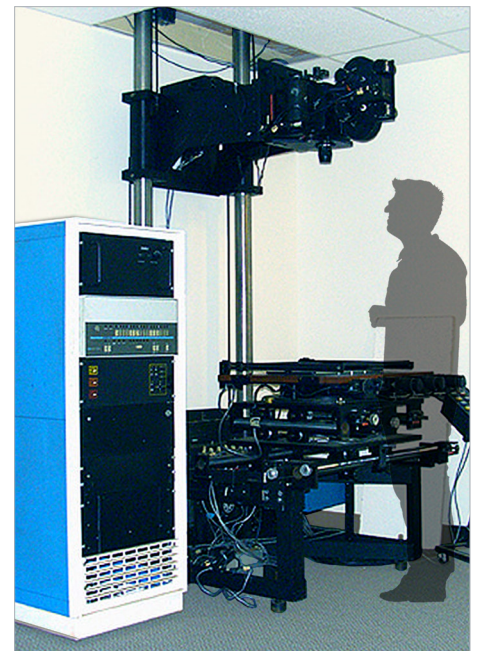
At Clatsop County Historical Society, I handle accepting donations into our collection. Occasionally, this involves traveling to pick items up from the donor's home. I recently went on just such an adventure with two of my colleagues. We piled into a 15-foot U-Haul and made our way to Seattle in pursuit of animation equipment long-used in the Pacific Northwest for future display in the Oregon Film Museum. The equipment in question consisted of a Rostrum camera with stand and table, an early IBM computer, and a Moviola 16mm film-editing machine. These are significant pieces of historic animation equipment.



Moviola
16mm
film-editing
machine

Also, they are gigantic! The Rostrum system includes an 11-foot stand attached to a very heavy table. Even the IBM was big. At almost five feet tall, the machine rivaled me in height!

Thankfully, it and the Moviola both had wheels. Not so for the connected camera stand and table. Loaded together onto dollies (at least one of which broke under the weight), they required quite a bit of maneuvering to get them inside the U-Haul. In the end we safely transported the camera and other equipment back to Astoria. I am excited to have these pieces in our collection. They were well worth the effort and will be a fantastic way to help illustrate the history and development of animation in the Northwest.



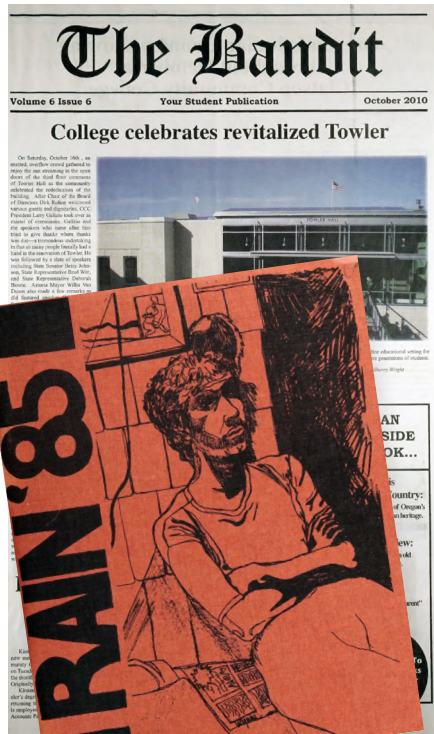
IBM computer and Rostrum camera setup. The 11-foot-tall camera stand is taller than the room's 8-foot-high ceilings

silhouette courtesy rawpixel.com on Freepik

Digital Archive News

by Julie Burpee, Digital Archivist

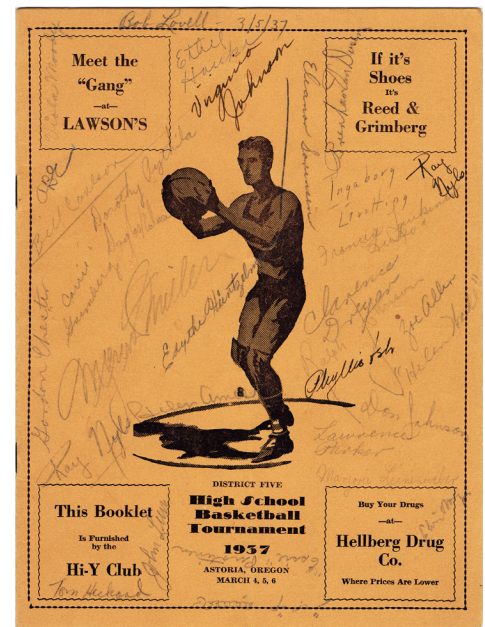
September means Back to School! Are you missing “the good ol’ days” of going to class, checking your locker, and getting your report card? Lucky for you, we have THREE Internet Archive collections to soothe your Back-to-School Blues. Our collection “School Records” contains school census reports, school directories, newsletters, and more. Want to know who taught your grandmother’s third grade class? This is a great place to start.



Publications created by Clatsop Community College Students from the “Clatsop Community College Digital Archive” collection

CCC Digital Archive

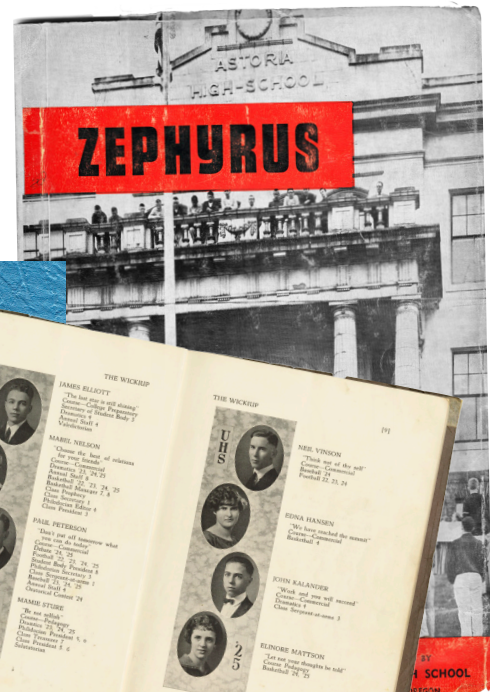
If you are more interested in reliving your college days or seeing how the local campus culture has changed, then visit the “Clatsop Community College Digital Archive.” Here we have digitized all existent publications from Clatsop Community College, such as past issues of the literary journal *Rain Magazine* and the school’s various newspapers, including the *Clatsop Courier*, *The Bandit*, and *Common Sense*.



1937 High School Basketball Tournament Schedule including teams from Seaside, Clatskanie, Rainier, St. Helens, Scappoose, Vernonia, and Astoria from our “School Records” collection

Yearbooks

Our final school themed collection is “Yearbooks.” I am particularly proud of this one. This past year I set a personal goal of digitizing every yearbook published in Clatsop County. With the help of the Jewell School district and the Warrenton and Seaside Historical Societies, I am coming close. Currently, the collection has more than 200 yearbooks for you to peruse. Search for yourself, your relatives, your friends, your teachers—or just take a look at how fashion has evolved over time! You will feel like a kid again flipping the pages through school history in Clatsop County.



Have a yearbook in your collection that is not in ours? Please consider loaning or donating it to us, so we can upload it with the others. In particular, we are looking for:

- ▲ Astoria, 1991 thru the present
- ▲ Seaside, 1960 thru the present
- ▲ Knappa, most years
- ▲ Schools no longer in operation, including those in Svenson, Brownsmead, and Westport

We now have over 3,000 items available online! Check them out at the web address below or by scanning the QR code to the right:



<https://archive.org/details/clatsopcountyhistoricalsociety>

1973 *Bluejay* published by the Jewell School District, 1954 *Zephyrus* published by Astoria High School, and 1925 *The Wickiup* (interior view) published by Union High School, Knappa, from our “Yearbooks” collection

Victorian Halloween at the Flavel House

Come celebrate Halloween in true Victorian fashion at the Flavel House Museum. Throughout October, the museum's rooms will feature spooky, Victorian-era entertainments commonly used to predict the future or commune with the spirit realm. An in-house

scavenger hunt will direct visitors to these eerie items. Are you (un)lucky enough to find all 13?



Spirit photographs are among the 13 items placed in the Flavel House for Halloween, including a stereoscopic viewing card of Flavel children George C. and Nellie haunting the family library and Mary Christina Flavel visited by her grandmother Fredrika Veith and mother Philippina Boelling

Talking Tombstones

Clatsop County Historical Society's Talking Tombstones returns once again to Oceanview Cemetery. Join us in commemorating local notables in their eternal resting place. In honor of *The Astorian* outliving all of us with its 150 years in print, this year we turn our attention to those who made the news. Our costumed reenactors turned ghostly headline makers will entertain with all the news that's fit to print.

Oceanview Cemetery, Warrenton, October 29th, 1-4pm



Original Poster for *Plan 9 from Outer Space* by artist Tom Jung

Plan 9 from Outer Space

Did you know the cult-classic film *Plan 9 from Outer Space* has a Clatsop County connection? Star Vampira—aka Maila Nurmi—was an Astoria High School alumna. Clatsop County Historical Society, in partnership with the Astoria International Film Festival, will be screening this bit of 1950s sci-fi cinema at the Liberty Theatre on October 27th.

Come revel in watching what has been dubbed, “the worst film ever made,” and learn more about this local history.

Doors open at 6. Show starts at 7



Scenes from past Talking Tombstones



Thursday Night Talks

October also brings our monthly Thursday Night Talks (TNT) Lecture Series back to the Lovell Showroom at Fort George Brewery. Join us the third Thursday of every month to learn about interesting and often little-known aspects of area history presented by resident experts. **Doors open at 6. Talks begin at 7**



CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

714 Exchange Street

PO Box 88

Astoria, OR 97103-0088

Upcoming Events

October 1-31: Halloween at the Flavel House, open every day, 10am-4pm, regular admission applies, buy tickets at the Carriage House, 714 Exchange Street

October 19: *TNT*, Fort George Brewery Lovell Showroom, 1483 Duane Street, doors open at 6

October 27: *Plan 9 from Outer Space* with special guest speaker Sandra Niemi, author of *Glamour Ghouls: The Passions and Pain of the Real Vampira, Maila Nurmi*, Liberty Theatre, 1203 Commercial Street, doors open at 6

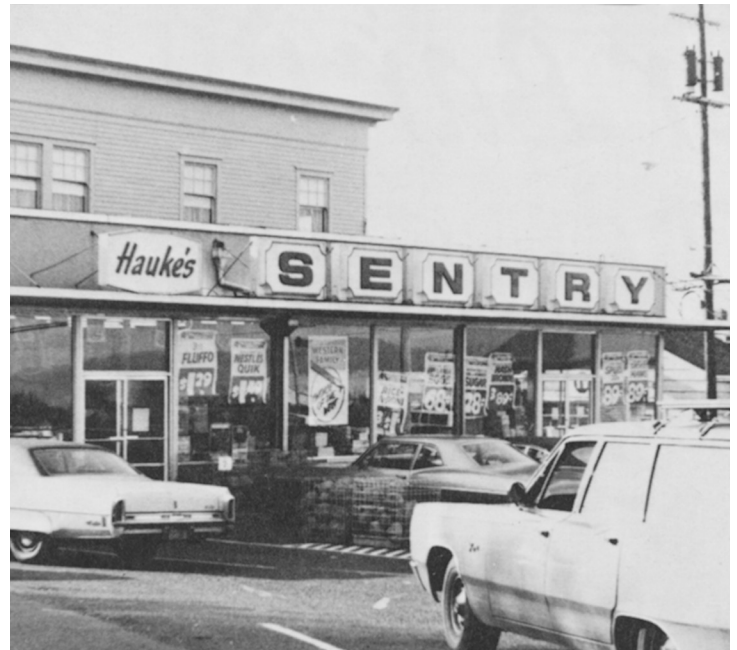
October 29: *Talking Tombstones*, Oceanview Cemetery, 575 SW 18th Street, Warrenton, 1-4

Ongoing Events

Sundays, 8:30-9pm: Mac Burns and Alana Kujala host *An Adventure in History* on KMUN

Wednesdays at 1pm: Flavel House Garden Society
Volunteers meet at the Flavel House Grounds

Now through February 2024: *Food for Thought* exhibit at the Heritage Museum, 1618 Exchange Street



Hauke's Sentry Market 33rd and Leif Eriksen Drive, 1978

Hear Skip Hauke describe his experiences as a long-time local grocer in our newest exhibit *Food for Thought: Feeding the North Coast and Beyond*

Now open at the Heritage Museum